

Wireless Generation/mCLASS Q&A

Q: Since DIBELS/mCLASS is for K-2, Acuity is for grades 3-6, why is the Indiana Reading Academy grouped for K-3? Shouldn't we keep the groupings consistent?

A: The State Board's Assessment Plan calls for there to be diagnostic assessments available for grades K-2 and grades 3-8.

Q: What are the recommended interventions for language arts instruction?

A: Teachers should use their own professional judgment to determine the language arts instruction most effective for their students. There are many resources available to schools, including FreeReading from mCLASS: www.FreeReading.net

Q: Why do the benchmark books skip levels? The levels above I are not showing at the correct level on the palm. It's hard to progress monitor students beyond second grade. (A, B, C, E, G, I, etc. – skips D, F, H...)

A: It is expected that benchmark book levels will be skipped, based on the research done by the STEP folks out of the University of Chicago. The levels that are present align with specific grade-level benchmarks/cut points that students should reach in their reading growth. You may find that students are on the edge of some of the benchmark levels; this is expected given the nature of reading acquisition and running records. If a teacher needs more information for these students to better tailor instruction they can administer a Progress Monitoring TRC to pinpoint reading behaviors and more specific levels.

Q: There is no data on math – when will we have results coming (like reading)?

A: There is currently data available for math. WG is working to develop some interim reports that can reflect the aggregate data for math and TRC. WG will be soon add this information to the mCLASS direct reporting system.

Q: Why is there a grey area with a question mark (TRC)?

A: This indicates that the TRC was completed but it was not at the student's instructional level.

Q: Is it possible to receive actual PM scores on DIBELS?

A: These scores are available to the teachers at the student level; if administrators need progress monitoring reports, please have them contact Anna Hazinski (call 312-602-2765 or email ahazinski@wgen.net).

Q: Is it possible for DIBELS interventions performed on the palm pilot to be recorded on the website?

A: Not at this time.

Q: (DIBELS) Does the reference to the number of days (noted in heavy black letters) indicate which students I should progress monitor?

A: Progress monitor based on the student's instructional level (red, yellow, or green). Look for the specific number to note how long it's been since the student has been progress-monitored.

Q: Currently, I start by going through each individual test as highlighted in green at the top of the screen. Is there an easier way to tell what skill needs to be monitored?

A: Look for the critical skill which is either marked with bold text in Reading 3D or a target on the green buttons in DIBELS. If that skill doesn't measure what you're teaching, go to the skill that does.

Q: (During a student's progress monitoring) When the number 0 appears to indicate the number of days, does this mean that I should stop testing and do not have to do the tests that are lit up?

A: As long as you are monitoring in at least one skill area that measures what you are teaching, you may stop when you see the 0.

Q: What if you give tests to the wrong student (let's say that I pressed the wrong name for a student who completed tests under "another" student's name)? How do you invalidate all of the tests?

A: Go back into the probe and click on the invalidate/delete button. Administer the assessments to the correct student using a different text for reading 3D and alternate forms from the DIBELS PM materials.